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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

14 APRIL 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Riverside - Seven Men Charged with Gun Trafficking in Inland Empire, 'Ghost Guns' Seized

(U) Authorities arrested seven men on multiple federal firearm and drug related offenses as part of a federal investigation that recovered seven automatic weapons among a haul of so-called ghost guns. The operation was a joint effort between federal authorities and the Riverside Gang Impact Team. During the operation, agents recovered more than 30 firearms, including several fully automatic guns that were not legally owned. Most of the guns were privately made firearms bearing no serial numbers or identifying marks, commonly referred to as "ghost guns." Investigators also seized several pounds of methamphetamine.

SOURCE: 13 April 2022, LA Times

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas - CBP Officers Seize \$106K in Unreported US Currency

(U) Brownsville – US Customs and Border Protection officer seized \$106,000 in bulk, unreported US currency at the Brownsville and Matamoros International Bridge Port of Entry. The seizure occurred when CBP officers encountered a male US citizen driving a vehicle and selected him for a routine outbound inspection. During the inspection, officers discovered 10 packages containing bulk US currency hidden within the vehicle. Officers seized the currency along with the vehicle, arrested the driver, and turned him over to Homeland Security Investigations for further investigation. SOURCE: 13 April 2022, Fox News

(U) NATIONAL

(U) New York - Brooklyn Subway Shooting Suspect Arrested, Faces Federal Terrorism Charge

(U) Brooklyn – Authorities arrested a man they advise opened fire on a Brooklyn subway train during morning rush Tuesday, ending a more than 24-hour hunt after the attack left more than two dozen people injured. NYPD officers stopped him in Manhattan's East Village in response to a tip from the city's crime stoppers line. The suspect faces a federal charge for a terrorist or other violent attack targeting a mass transit system. The suspect faces a federal charge for a terrorist or other violent attack targeting a mass transit system and a life sentence if convicted.

SOURCE: 13 April 2022, MSN

(U) New York – Three Sikh Men Attacked in Same Neighborhood in Just over a Week

(U) Queens – Authorities said that two Sikh men were attacked in the New York borough of Queens, less than two weeks after another Sikh man was assaulted in the same neighborhood. The two men in the most recent case were assaulted with fists and a stick by assailants and taken to the hospital in stable condition. One suspect has been taken into custody, while the other was still at large. The attack took

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place in Richmond Hill, an area with a sizable population of Sikh and Indian immigrants. It comes nine days after another Sikh man was punched in the face while walking in the neighborhood. The incident is being investigated as a possible hate crime by authorities.

SOURCE: 13 April 2022, CNN

(U) Minnesota – Two Men Sentenced to More than 14 Years in Prison for Mosque Bombing

(U) Bloomington – Federal authorities sentenced two Illinois for their roles in the 2017 bombing of the Dar Al-Farooq Islamic Center in Bloomington. The men were each sentenced to more than 14 years in prison for firearms violations, arson, use of a destructive device and federal civil rights violations in connection with the bombing. Both men pled guilty in January 2019. A third man, previously convicted for his role in the bombing was sentenced to 53 years in prison. The bombing incident occurred in 2017 when an improvised explosive device was detonated at the mosque. No one was injured in the blast. SOURCE: 13 April 2022, CNN

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Benin – Five Soldiers Killed in National Park Attack

(U) Pendjari – Authorities said five soldiers were killed in an attack by a suspected armed group possibly linked to Islamic State or al-Qa'ida in a national park in the north of Benin Republic. The attack also wounded several soldiers who are being treated at a nearby hospital. The soldiers were killed at the Pendjari National Park when an army convoy struck an improvised explosive device. The attack is the latest in a string of deadly attacks in northern Benin, where terrorist groups have spilled over from neighboring Burkina Faso, the epicenter of conflict in the Sahel.

SOURCE: 13 April 2022, Reuters

(U) Germany – Gang Planned to Overthrow Government in German Kidnap Plot

(U) Berlin – German authorities said four people have been detained for plotting to create "civil war conditions" in order to overthrow democracy in the country. Prosecutors said the group, linked to farright and anti-COVID movements, planned to destroy power stations and the country's energy infrastructure to cause a nationwide blackout. The group also planned to kidnap the health minister. The gang, who used the name United Patriots, reject the German state as a legal entity, and opposed the government's anti-COVID measures. In total, investigators have identified 12 people they believe were connected to the group.

SOURCE: 14 April 2022, BBC News

(U) Nigeria – Armed Gangs Working with Militants during Attacks

(U) Abuja – Government officials in Nigeria said that armed gangs attacking remote communities of the country's troubled northwest are now working with extremist rebels who have waged a decade-long insurgency in the country's northeast region. The result of the alliance is the recent deadly train attack near Abuja in which explosives were used to blow up the rail track in which eight passengers were killed and more than 100 were abducted and remain missing. Nigeria, Africa's most populous country with 206 million people, has been battling violence in its troubled north and an alliance between the two groups could worsen the crisis.

SOURCE: 13 April 2022, ABC News

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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